

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 SINGAP 00234 161114Z

53

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /090 W

----- 050365

R 160930Z JAM 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1851

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 0234

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEAN, SN

SUBJ: BOGAARS' OBSERVATIONS ON RECENT ASEAN MEETINGS IN THAILAND

1. SUMMARY: JCCORDING TO PERMSEC BOGAARS, SOME PROGRESS WAS MADE DURING RECENT ASEAN SECRETARIES GENERAL MEETING IN THAILAND ON ORGANIZATION OF ASEAN SECRETARIAT BUT NO PROGRESS MADE AT SEPARATE OFFICIALS MEETING OF MATTERS RELATED TO ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY AND DISPUTES SETTLEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. MFA PERMSEC BOGAARS REVIEWED WITH ME ON JANUARY 14 RECENT ASEAN MEETING OF SECRETARIES GENERAL IN THAILAND, WHICH HAD BEEN CALLED PRIMARILY TO CONSIDER ORGANIZATION OF ASEAN PERMANENT SECRETARIAT. BOGAARS THOUGHT THE SECRETARIES GENERAL HAD FINALLY DEVELOPED A WORKABLE PROPOSITION FOR THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE STILL POINTS OF DIFFERENCE, A CONSENSUS SEEMS TO BE DEVELOPING IN FAVOR OF A SMALLER SECRETARIAT AS FAVORED BY MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE. HE STRESSED THAT THE OFFICIAL OF AMBASSADORIAL RANK, WHO WOULD HEAD UP THE SECRETARIAT, WOULD NOT BE CALLED "THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF ASEAN", BUT WOULD BE REFERRED TO INSTEAD AS "THE SECRETARY GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SINGAP 00234 161114Z

OF THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT". THE SECRETARIAT WOULD INCLUDE A TOTAL OF

EIGHT OFFICERS, INCLUDING THREE BUREAU DIRECTORS TO BE IN CHARGE OF ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND SOCIO-CULTURAL AFFAIRS. THERE WOULD ALSO BE A SPECIAL DIRECTOR FOR TRADE AND RELATIONS WITH OTHER ECONOMIC ENTITIES, SUCH AS THE EEC, AND OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION.

3. HE COMMENTED THAT THE PHILS HAD BEEN IN FAVOR OF AN EXPANDED ORGANIZATION BUT HAD AGREED TO ACCEPT THE SMALLER STRUCTURE OUTLINED ABOVE AT LEAST FOR STARTERS. HOWEVER, THE PHILS HAD URGED THAT THE ASEAN STANDING COMMITTEE BE LOCATED PERMANENTLY, ALONG WITH THE SECRETARIAT, IN JAKARTA. SINCE THE ASEAN STANDING COMMITTEE IS CURRENTLY CHAIRED BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTRY HOSTING THE COMMITTEE, ITS PERMANENT LOCATION IN JAKARTA WOULD HAVE POSED PROBLEMS. MOREOVER, INDONESIA WISHED TO AVOID ANY MOVE WHICH WOULD GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT JAKARTA WAS TRYING TO CONTROL THE ASEAN ORGANIZATION. THEREFORE, BOGAARS DID NOT THINK THE PHILIPPINE VIEW WOULD PREVAIL.

4. THERE ARE ALSO DIFFERENCES OVER THE COST-SHARING FORMULA. HE SAID SINGAPORE WANTED TO PAY AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE AND FAVORED THE FORMULA USED BY THE ADB WHICH IS BASED ON GNP, FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS, ETC. BOGAARS THOUGHT THESE PROBLEMS WOULD ALL BE WORKED OUT IN TIME FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTERS TO GIVE FINAL APPROVAL TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE SECRETARIAT AT THEIR MEETING IN APRIL.

5. HE SAID THE MEETING DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF STREAMLINING THE ASEAN ORGANIZATION, WHICH BOGAARS MAINTAINED WAS WANDERING OFF IN TOO MANY DIRECTIONS. HE THOUGHT IT ESSENTIAL THAT ASEAN, THROUGH ITS ESTABLISHED ELEVEN PERMANENT COMMITTEES, DEVELOP GREATER FOCUS AND A CLEARER SET OF PRIORITIES.

6. BOGAARS SAID VIRTUALLY NO PROGRESS WAS MADE AT THE OFFICIALS MEETING. NONE OF THE ASEAN GOVERNMENTS SEEMS TO BE CURRENTLY INTERESTED IN PRESSING AHEAD WITH THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY AND THE IDEA OF PROPOSING A UN RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE "ZONE" APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN SHELVED. ALTHOUGH HE THOUGHT THE IDEA OF SETTING UP A PROCEDURE FOR SETTLING DISPUTES WITHIN THE REGION IS STILL WORTH CONSIDERING, IT SEEMED TO POINT TOO DIRECTLY AT MALAYSIA AND THE PHILIPPINES AND, THEREFORE, HAD ALSO BEEN SHELVED INDEFINITELY.

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SINGAP 00234 161114Z

7. SPEAKING MORE GENERALLY ON ASEAN'S OVERALL DEVELOPMENT, BOGAARS SAID A LITTLE PROGRESS WAS BEING MADE ON THE QUESTION OF TARIFF REDUCTIONS WITHIN THE REGION, BUT WASN'T INFORMED ON DETAILS. JOINT "COMPLEMENTARITY" PROJECTS (RECOMMENDED BY THE UN STUDY) WERE GENERALLY CONSIDERED IMPRACTICABLE, BUT THERE WAS STILL SOME INTEREST IN JOINT PARTICIPATION IN INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS ("PACKAGE DEALS"), SUCH AS A PULP AND PAPER PLANT. BUT ON ALL THIS, HE SAID,

NOTHING CONCRETE HAD HAPPENED -- JUST TALK. CRONK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTES, INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE, MEETING REPORTS, NEUTRALISM, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SINGAP00234
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750017-0127
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750186/aaaaglcotel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971001
Subject: BOGAARS' OBSERVATIONS ON RECENT ASEAN MEETINGS IN THAILAND
TAGS: PFOR, SN, ASEAN, PFOR, (BOGAARS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006